JS 44 (Rev. 09/11)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

in shformation contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided real, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating STRECTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.) The JS 44 civil covers by local rules of court the civil docket she

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I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Everett Terry	DEFENDANTS Yeadon Borough, Yeadon Borough Council, Delores Butler, Asher									
-				Kemp, Nelva Ri	light, .	John Ho	lden, Jack Bryr	n, Penny Mc	Donald	,
				Denise Stinson,	, Deb	orah Ro	binson-Howell	•		
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(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Arthur D. Goldman, Esq.	& Kenneth J. Zoldan	r) Esquire		Attorneys (If Kno	uwn <i>j</i>					
P.O. Box 115, Paoli, PA										
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Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporate (Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P.	
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Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questions:	
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Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledg \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs; Relief other than monetary damages is sought.	e and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of
DATE: 11-2-12 Le nne+h J. Zo Attorney-at-Law NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only	Attorney I.D.#
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pendir except as noted above.	ng or within one year previously terminated action in this court
DATE: 11-2-12 Kenneth T. Zoldun Attorney-at-Law	<u> </u>
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CIV. 609 (5/2012)



IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Everett Terry	:	CIVIL ACTION	
Everett Terry v. Yeadon Borough, et	- al.	12 _{NO.} 6205	
In accordance with the Civil plaintiff shall complete a Cas filing the complaint and serve side of this form.) In the e designation, that defendant s the plaintiff and all other par	Justice Expense and Delay is Management Track Design a copy on all defendants. (Se vent that a defendant does not hall, with its first appearance.)	Reduction Plan of this court, couns attion Form in all civil cases at the time § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reot agree with the plaintiff regarding, submit to the clerk of court and sence Designation Form specifying the	me of everse g said eve on
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Nov. 2, 2012 Date	Arthur D. Goldman Attorney-at-law	Attorney for	
484-343-2856	610-296-7730	agoldman Warthungold,	manlaw, Com
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Case 2:12-cv-06205-CMR Document 1 Filed 11/02/12 Page 4 of 17



IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

EVERETT K. TERRY

314 W. 15 Street

Chester, Pennsylvania 19013,

Plaintiff

v.

YEADON BOROUGH

600 Church Lane Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050

and

BOROUGH COUNCIL YEADON BOROUGH

600 Church Lane Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050

and

DOLORES JONES-BUTLER, MAYOR

c/o Yeadon Borough 600 Church Lane Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050 (in her official and individual capacity)

and

ASHER KEMP, JR., **COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

c/o Yeadon Borough 600 Church Lane Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050 (in his official and individual capacity)

12 6205

and

JACK BYRNE, COUNCILMAN

c/o Yeadon Borough 600 Church Lane Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050 (in his official and individual capacity)

and

JOHN HOLDEN, COUNCILMAN

c/o Yeadon Borough 600 Church Lane Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050 (in his official and individual capacity)

and

FLORENCE MCDONALD, COUNCILWOMAN

c/o Yeadon Borough 600 Church Lane Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050 (in her official and individual capacity)

and

DEBORAH ROBINSON-HOWELL, COUNCILWOMAN

c/o Yeadon Borough 600 Church Lane Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050 (in her official and individual capacity)

and

DENISE STINSON, COUNCILWOMAN

c/o Yeadon Borough 600 Church Lane Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050 (in his official and individual capacity)

and

NELVA WRIGHT, COUNCILWOMAN

c/o Yeadon Borough 600 Church Lane Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050 (in her official and individual capacity),

Defendants

COMPLAINT OF PLAINTIFF EVERETT K. TERRY

Plaintiff Everett K. Terry ("Plaintiff" or "Officer Terry"), complain of the Defendants as follows:

PARTIES

- Plaintiff Everett K. Terry ("Officer Terry") is an adult individual residing at 314
 W. 15 Street, Chester, Pennsylvania 19013, and was formerly employed as a police officer by the
 Borough of Yeadon and works currently as a security guard.
- 2. Defendant Yeadon Borough ("Borough") is a political subdivision/municipality/governmental unit/entity organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with an office for the conduct of governmental affairs located at 60 Church Lane, Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050.
- 3. Defendant Yeadon Borough Council ("Council") is a political subdivision/municipality/governmental unit/entity organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with an office for the conduct of governmental affairs located at 60 Church Lane, Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050.
- 4. Defendant Dolores Jones-Butler ("Ms. Jones-Butler") is an adult individual and resident of Yeadon Borough and was, at all times relevant herein, the Mayor of Yeadon Borough with an office for the conduct of governmental affairs located at 60 Church Lane, Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050.
- 5. Defendant Asher Kemp, Jr. ("Mr. Kemp") is an adult individual and resident of Yeadon Borough and was, at all times relevant herein, Council President of the Yeadon Borough Council with an office for the conduct of governmental affairs located at 60 Church Lane, Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050.
- 6. Defendant Jack Byrne ("Mr. Byrne") is an adult individual and resident of Yeadon Borough and was, at all times relevant herein, a member of the Yeadon Borough Council with an

office for the conduct of governmental affairs located at 60 Church Lane, Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050.

- 7. Defendant John Holden ("Mr. Holden") is an adult individual and resident of Yeadon Borough and was, at all times relevant herein, a member of the Yeadon Borough Council with an office for the conduct of governmental affairs located at 60 Church Lane, Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050.
- 8. Defendant Florence McDonald ("Ms. McDonald") is an adult individual and resident of Yeadon Borough and was, at all times relevant herein, a member of the Yeadon Borough Council with an office for the conduct of governmental affairs located at 60 Church Lane, Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050.
- 9. Defendant Deborah Robinson-Howell ("Ms. Howell") is an adult individual and resident of Yeadon Borough and was, at all times relevant herein, a member of the Yeadon Borough Council with an office for the conduct of governmental affairs located at 60 Church Lane, Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050.
- 10. Defendant Denise Stinson ("Ms. Stinson") is an adult individual and resident of Yeadon Borough and was, at all times relevant herein, a member of the Yeadon Borough Council with an office for the conduct of governmental affairs located at 60 Church Lane, Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050.
- 11. Defendant Nelva Wright ("Ms. Wright") is an adult individual and resident of Yeadon Borough and was, at all times relevant herein, a member of the Yeadon Borough Council with an office for the conduct of governmental affairs located at 60 Church Lane, Yeadon, Pennsylvania 19050.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 12. This action arises under 28 U.S.C. §1331 (federal question jurisdiction) and 28 U.S.C. §1343(a)(3) and (4)(civil rights).
 - 13. Venue is proper pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1391(b).

FACTS

- 14. Yeadon Borough hired Plaintiff Everett K. Terry as a police office in August 2002 where he worked until the termination of his employment on or about November 4, 2010.
- 15. Officer Terry compiled and exemplary and blemish-free tenure as a police officer for the Borough through the entire duration of his employment.
- 16. On July 17, 2010, Officer Terry was married in a formal ceremony to his common law wife, Peg ("Mrs. Terry). Officer and Mrs. Terry had been in a relationship since May 15, 1998, a period of more than twelve years, and the couple had already considered themselves to be husband and wife. Mrs. Terry is a Caucasian woman of Irish descent.
- 17. Although Office Terry was initially a part time office for the police department, in 2005, he was promoted to a full time position as an officer with the Yeadon police department.
- 18. In connection with his promotion to full time employment, Officer Terry met with then Borough Finance Director, Terri Vaughn ("Ms. Vaughn"), to complete the paperwork in connection with his promotion.
- 19. While filling out the medical insurance forms, Officer Terry did not initially include Mrs. Terry in the paperwork. Ms. Vaughn handed the paperwork back to Officer Terry and asked why he had not included Mrs. Terry on the medical insurance forms.

- 20. Officer Terry explained to Ms. Vaughn that he and Mrs. Terry had never been "officially" married, but Ms. Vaughn replied that since Officer and Mrs. Terry had been together so long that she was in fact his common law wife and life partner and was therefore eligible to be placed on his insurance. This entire exchange was witnessed by fellow Officer Ron Kent.

 Officer Terry did as he was instructed and went back to work.
- 21. In or about July 2010, Officer Terry uploaded photos of his wedding ceremony with Mrs. Terry onto his Facebook page website. In those photos, it clearly showed that he was African-American and that his wife was Caucasian.
- 22. In August 201, Police Chief Donald Molineux, who is Caucasian, approached Officer Terry and asked him who was on his medical coverage. After telling Chief Molineux that it was himself and his wife, Chief Molineux stated that he saw no issues with that, but then told him that Mayor Jones-Butler, who is African-American, wanted to speak to him about his benefits and coverage.
- 23. Officer Terry went to Mayor Jones-Butler's office and the Mayor told him that she had noticed from his photos on his Facebook page that he had just gotten "married." She then accused him of having his wife on his health insurance coverage which the Mayor maintained should not have been the case unless they were technically, formally married at the time Officer Terry signed up for benefits in 2005..
- 24. In response, Officer Terry recounted the events related to his placing Mrs. Terry on his policy, specifically, that he had been instructed to do so at the time. He then stated that he did not want to keep any payments or benefits which were not his, if that was in fact the case, and asked for a precise amount so he could know what to pay back if in fact he had been overpaid.

Mayor Jones-Butler stated that she would get back to him, but did not present Officer Terry with any figures at the time.

- 25. In September 2010, the Mayor finally got back to Officer Terry. She presented him with an ultimatum of two options. He was told that he must immediately resign and repay the full amount of the benefits or else he would be fired from his job and prosecuted for wrongfully taking money from the Borough.
- 26. In great distress, Officer Terry talked to Chief Molineux who was highly supportive of the innocence of Officer Terry. The Chief suggested a payoff plan with at most a short term suspension since Officer Terry did not intentionally do anything to violate any laws or procedures or intentionally take any funds.
- 27. Despite making multiple payoff proposals to the Mayor, she rejected every proposal, even though the funds would have been repaid rapidly.
 - 28. Officer Terry requested a meeting with the Borough Council.
- 29. Officer Terry attended a meeting with the Borough Council in mid-September, where he was subjected to particularly hostile questioning from a Caucasian member, Jack Byrne, and several of the African-American female members. At the meeting, Police Union Attorney Joseph Chipien and Attorney Scott Shields were also present.
- 30. On October 21, 2010, Officer Terry received a call from Chief Molineux that the Borough Council had taken a vote and it had been in Officer Terry's favor and that he could return to work and that he would be hearing back as to the repayment arrangements. Officer Terry was advised that all Council members had allegedly been present for the vote. Relieved at the outcome, Officer Terry continued to work.

- 31. On November 2, 2010, Mayor Jones-Butler confronted Chief Molineux and snapped angrily to him, "Don't think this is over!" in connection with Officer Terry's status.
- 32. On November 5, 2010, Officer Terry received an unexpected phone call from the Chief who told him that somehow the Borough Council, with fewer than all members present, had taken an unannounced, un-posted, and un-listed re-vote on the status of Officer Terry (which was in violation of the Sunshine Act under Pennsylvania law, 65 Pa.C.S.A. §709). The Chief further explained that had he known or been notified, he would have been there.
- 33. Despite efforts by multiple fellow employees of the Borough, including Chief Molineux and the attorneys, Officer Terry was officially terminated and has not worked for the Borough since.
- 34. Although Officer Terry has repeatedly returned to testify on court cases, in fact over 200 times, as was his duty as a police officer, he has not been returned to work as a police officer at either the Borough or elsewhere. He currently works as a security guard at a greatly diminished level of compensation.
- 35. Subsequent to his termination, several interesting and compelling facts have come to light. One fact is that Officer Terry was the only member of an interracial couple who had been employed by the Borough at the time of his firing; presumably there are now none.
- 36. Even more damning, however, was the treatment of other Borough employees who were not part of an interracial marriage who also received overpayments of benefits in similar fashion to Officer Terry. Officer Terry learned of at least three other Borough employees who were also found to have been overpaid benefits and all three were treated differently, and better than Officer Terry, and allowed to simply repay the benefits, without termination.

Interestingly the two other African-American male employees who were overpaid, including Borough Council President Asher Kemp, Jr., were married to African American women, unlike Officer Terry, who has a Caucasian wife.

- 37. The Defendants selected the Officer Terry for disproportionately unfavorable treatment compared to other citizens, including the denial of basic rights within the community, for example, treating him differently than and worse than those who were not part of an interracial marriage, and was an impermissible form of discrimination on the basis of race.
- 38. The Defendants have failed to justify in any way their basis for treating Officer Terry differently than other Borough employees who received overpayments in the form of benefits.
- 39. The Defendants have singled out Officer Terry for oppression by the wrongful use of government powers, selectively applied against Officer Terry to oppress and harass him.
- 40. The wrongful use of governmental powers against Officer Terry constitutes a violation of his rights as a citizen of the Commonwealth and the United States.
- 41. The conduct of Defendants has caused the Officer Terry extensive damages, both financial and non-financial, including the destruction of his rights in the community, financial cost and expense related to litigation, severe emotional distress, and damages to his reputation and livelihood in the community.
- 42. The conduct of the Defendants was undertaken through power, corruption and lies and with the deliberate intent to damage and harm the reputation and standing of Officer Terry in the community as well as to cause him financial damage by terminating his employment and ability to be hired by another police department.

COUNT I

PLAINTIFF V. ALL DEFENDANTS

VIOLATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS—42 U.S.C. §1983

- 43. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 42 above as though fully set forth herein.
- 44. Plaintiff has vested and protectable Constitutional rights which include freedom from racial discrimination, harassment and oppression by governmental entities and the wrongful use of the force of the government.
- 45. As set forth above, Plaintiff has incurred extensive expenses and damages as a result of the Defendants' conduct, including, but not limited to loss of employment income.
- 46. In acting as aforesaid, the Defendants have acted in contravention of the Constitutional rights of the Plaintiff, <u>inter alia</u>,
 - (a) treating Officer Terry differently than and worse than other Borough employees as a result of impermissible racial discrimination;
 - (b) failing to conduct Council meetings and make employment decisions in compliance with local, state and federal laws; and
 - (c) terminating Officer Terry's employment as a police officer for the Borough on the basis of impermissible racial discrimination and by failing to use proper procedures.
- 47. The Defendants have selectively applied their powers maliciously in order to deprive Plaintiff of his federal Constitutional and statutory rights.

- 48. Upon information and belief, the Defendants have used their governmental offices to destroy the Plaintiff' constitutional rights.
- 49. In acting as aforesaid, the Defendants have deliberately and arbitrarily abused the power of their offices.
- 50. In acting as aforesaid, the Defendants have engaged in arbitrary, capricious, irrational and abusive conduct.
- 51. Defendants have acted under color of state law with intent to unlawfully deprive the Plaintiff of his rights without substantive due process or procedural due process in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.
- 52. Defendants have further acted under color of state law with the intent to unlawfully deprive the Plaintiff of his rights in violation of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.
- 53. The Defendants' acts constitute the official policy, custom and practices of the Borough.
- 54. In terminating Plaintiff's employment on the basis of his race and the race of his wife, in addition to their other unlawful conduct, Defendants have acted intentionally, willfully, wantonly, and with callous and reckless disregard for the Plaintiff's constitutional rights.
- 55. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' conduct, the Plaintiff has and shall sustain monetary damages including attorneys' and related litigation costs and other damages to be established at the trial of this matter.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment in his favor and against Defendants jointly and severally for:

- (1) Compensatory damages;
- (2) Punitive damages;
- (3) Counsel fees and court costs; and
- (4) Such other and further relief as this Court deems appropriate.

COUNT II

PLAINTIFF V. DEFENDANTS

DEPRIVATION OF LIBERTY WITHOUT DUE PROCESS—42 U.S.C. §1983

- 56. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 42 above as though fully set forth herein.
- 57. Plaintiff has a protected liberty interest in his right to live without arbitrary governmental interference.
- 58. The acts of Yeadon Borough and its agents, as set forth above, constitute arbitrary, capricious, irrational and abusive conduct which unlawfully interferes with Plaintiff's liberty interests protected by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.
- 59. Defendants have acted under color of state law with the intent to unlawfully deprive the Plaintiff of his liberty without substantive due process or procedural due process in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.
- 60. The Defendants' acts constitute the official policy, custom, and practices of the Borough.

61. In depriving the Plaintiff of his liberty without due process of law, the Defendants have acted intentionally, willfully, wantonly, and with callous and reckless disregard for Plaintiff's constitutional rights.

62. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct, Plaintiff has and shall sustain monetary damages including lost profits, engineering and construction fees, attorneys' fees, costs incurred in development, court costs and other damages to be established at the trial of this matter.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment in his favor and against Defendants jointly and severally for:

- (1) Compensatory damages;
- (2) Counsel fees and court costs;
- (3) Punitive; and
- (4) Such other and further relief as this Court deems appropriate.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff respectfully demands a trial by jury on all claims set forth herein.

Bv:

Arthur D. Goldman, Esquire

Kenneth J. Zoldan, Esquire

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

P.O. Box 115

Paoli, Pennsylvania 19301

(484) 343-2856